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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/019,482 Confirmation No. : 5611
Applicant : Gil PRIVE, et al.
Filed : June 18, 2002
TC/A.U. : 1751
Examiner : Maury Audet
Docket No. : 010782.47985US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : Peptide Conjugates for The Stabilization of Membrane
Proteins and Interactions with Biological Membranes

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a reply to the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004 in the above-identified patent application.

The requirement for restriction is believed defective because it does not present any alternative groups of claims between which the Applicants can elect. In addition, Applicants wish to point out that the instant application is the U.S. national stage of an International Application filed under the PCT, but the attempted restriction does not properly apply the applicable unity of invention standards.

Moreover, it is noted that claim 1 defines a single generic invention which is a peptide conjugate in which a peptide moiety is linked at one end to a first aliphatic hydrocarbon moiety and at its other end to a second aliphatic hydrocarbon moiety so that the resulting conjugate has a hydrophobic face and a

May 18, 2004

Reply to Office Action

hydrophilic face. Claims 2-12 are all dependent from generic claim 1 and represent preferred embodiments of the generic invention.

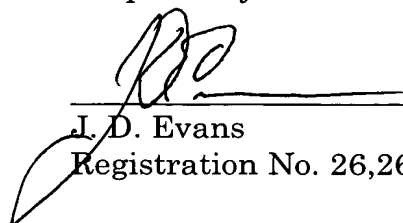
Pursuant to a telephone interview between the undersigned and Examiner Maury Audet held April 28, 2004, it was deemed appropriate to consider the restriction requirement as a requirement for election of species. Pursuant hereto, Applicants hereby elect the detergent species LPD-16 from Example 1 of the application for initial examination. Claims 1-12 are all believed to read on the elected species. Favorable action on the application is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned at (202) 624-2845 would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 010782.47985).

Respectfully submitted,

May 18, 2004



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